

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1917

HOUSE SOLIDLY BEHIND WILSON, PASSES ARMED VESSEL BILL, 403 TO 13

Casting All Party Lines Aside, Members In Wave of Patriotism Vindicated Stand of President.

If Bill Now In the Senate Is Adopted, House Will Probably Substitute It for Its Own Without Change.

Washington, March 2.—The Armed Neutrality Bill, authorizing the President to arm merchant ships defensively and protect American citizens from attack on the high seas, passed the House last night by a vote of 403 to 13, with one member not voting.

It was a magnificent victory for President Wilson, showing the House virtually a unit behind him in the critical international situation. Party lines were eliminated early in the debate.

Of the thirteen who voted against the bill nine are Republicans, three Democrats and one Socialist. The only other record vote came on a motion by Representative Cooper of Wisconsin, leader of the opposition, to recommit the bill to the Committee on Foreign Affairs with instructions to report it forthwith with a proviso that arms should not be furnished ships carrying arms and ammunition to a belligerent. This motion was lost by a vote of 124 to 295.

All Attempts to Amend Fail. Every attempt to amend the bill on the floor failed. The amendments put in the bill by the House committee were adopted by virtually unanimous votes. The most important of these eliminates the words "other instrumentalities and methods" and confirms the direct protection afforded American ships carrying arms and ammunition to a belligerent. The bill empowers the President "to protect such ships and citizens of the United States against unlawful attack" while engaged in lawful and peaceful pursuits of the sea.

Another committee amendment denies war risk insurance to American ships carrying munitions. Chairman Flood of the Foreign Affairs Committee said last night that he was advised President Wilson is satisfied with the language of the bill as it passed the Senate. The administration prefers the Senate bill, because it empowers the President to use the language embodied in the measure originally prepared in the State Department. Should the Senate pass its own bill House leaders say it will be substituted for the Flood bill and carried by an overwhelmingly majority in the House.

Opposition Had Meltd. Consideration of the bill began in the House a few minutes before noon, when Chairman Henry of the rules committee presented a special rule for the passage of the measure. The rule, which was passed by unanimous vote, provided for three hours of general debate, followed by the reading of the bill or amendment under the five-minute rule. General debate began at 1:10 o'clock.

It became apparent the moment Speaker Clark recognized Chairman Henry that the expected opposition to the bill had melted away following the publication of Germany's Mexico-Japan intrigue. Applause greeted the Texas leader as he laid the rule before the House in a speech occupying only a few minutes. Mr. Henry commented on the evidences of approval of the bill which came from both sides of the House. He declared that the President had asked for no unconstitutional power and would not do so. He urged every member to vote for the special rule. The House was worked up to a patriotic fervor by the speech of Representative Flood of Virginia, chairman of the foreign affairs committee, at the outset of the debate. Members of both sides joined in and after round of applause mentioned American rights and demanded support for President Wilson in enforcing them.

Mann Gets Ovation. Republican Leader Mann then fairly swept the House off its feet by unexpectedly and boldly proclaiming his support of the bill and of President Wilson. He was given a splendid ovation, the most demonstrative which any person has received in the House except the President himself and "Uncle Joe" Cannon, the venerable former speaker, who later declared it to be his "duty to support the administration and the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy."

"We may follow the teachings of the Master," he said, "and turn the other cheek, but as the old negro said, 'the third cheek is enough.'"

The chair found it necessary to admonish occupants of the galleries for applauding Mr. Cannon. Leader Mann's speech was the feature of the general debate, his recent utterances having led many to believe he would back and fill and trim. After declaring that he had done and will do all in his power to keep the country out of the European war, Mr. Mann said:

"But I do not see how it is possible for a patriotic man to refuse to give the President at this crisis the power which he asks and which is provided for in the pending bill. I recognize the fact that those opposing this proposition are filled with patriotism and devotion to the country, as the rest of us are. "When the time comes that our ships shall be assailed and the limit of our patient bearing of insults or destruction that may be heaped upon us is passed it becomes the duty of a great or small government to defend its rights upon the sea. "I hope and believe that by giving

this power to the President we shall be more apt to keep out than to get into war. I don't want to be involved in European wars but I am willing to protect the rights of Americans."

Mr. Mann's speech swept away any remaining opposition on the Republican side. Chairman Flood of the Foreign Affairs Committee declared that in 13 conditions were much the same as they are today. "England and France were at war," he said, "and France was preying upon commerce as Germany is today. Many people in this country at that time said our rights should not be upheld and that to uphold them would lead to war with France. We gave the President power, our commerce was protected, our honor upheld and war averted. It may be necessary only to arm our ships, but if we must do more the fault will not be ours."

Vigorous applause also greeted a speech by Democratic Leader Kitchin, who had been numbered among the pacifists. Mr. Kitchin talked like a man who was forcing himself to adopt a conclusion personally distasteful, but he came through finally and urged unanimous support for the bill.

Attacks "Sinister Press." Representative Decker of Missouri joined his colleague, Representative Shackelford, in attacking the bill. Mr. Shackelford prepared the minority report which was signed by six members of the Foreign Affairs Committee. He paid his respects to the occupants of the press gallery, pointing his finger at them and saying to the House: "You are too cowardly to face the sinister press that is trying to force us into war!"

Mr. Shackelford declared he was ready to go to war, "when the situation demands it," but opposed delegating any authority to the President. Mr. Decker, a young man and an eloquent speaker, surprised the House by his speech. He had not been counted among those who would actively oppose the measure. He challenged the House membership to stand in Washington and shoulder the full burden of responsibility for war, declaring that the passage of the bill meant war and nothing less.

Mr. Decker's speech was a reference to men of the South which Representative Stedman of North Carolina, a Confederate veteran, construed as an insinuation upon their valor. He quickly jumped to his feet and declared that, while opposed to war, the young men, and the old men, of the South would be the first to respond to the Nation's call. He asked the House: "What would Lincoln do in this situation?" After the applause subsided, Major Stedman added:

"Everyone of you knows what the great Lincoln would do. It is not communication for me to say, I wish to affirm my support of this bill and the President." Decker said he intended no reflection on anybody. Representative Temple of Pennsylvania, Republican member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, in discussing the Prussian treaty of 1793, called attention to the fact that Germany recognizes the binding obligations of that treaty, which requires the examination of cargoes of American ships, even those carrying contraband, and provides for their release under certain conditions. "Yet," he said, "Germany now proposes to sink our ships without warning."

Attacks British Blockade. Representative Cooper of Wisconsin, ranking Republican member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, read the original decree of Great Britain declaring the entire North Sea a danger zone in order to enforce her blockade against Germany. "The man who surrenders his individual judgment in a crisis like this," he said, "is not fit to sit in this body. Our indignation appears to be aroused only against German violations of international law. We say that England has not killed any Americans. True, but we have not dared to resist England's blockade. American ships are not braving British blockade because of recent speeches, was welcomed into the big camp of the President's supporters when he proclaimed his support of the bill.

Representative Sherley of Kentucky closed the general debate, declaring the bill a peace, not a war measure. "The proposition," he said, "is to protect our most sacred rights on earth—human life."

The reading of the bill proceeded as far as the committee amendments to the original Flood bill when a parliamentary jangle developed. In the melee that followed it soon became apparent that a large number of members desired to speak under the five minute rule and that a vote on the bill would be delayed until late in the evening.

Republican Leader Mann obtained unanimous consent for the introduction of the following amendment by Representative Cooper in order that it might be discussed at length: "Provided that no ship of American registry while armed in the manner aforesaid shall carry a cargo consisting in whole or in part of arms or ammunition consigned to a belligerent country or citizen thereof."

Mr. Mann expressed the conviction that the President will not arm munitions carriers. EX-MAYOR GLINES DEAD. Somerville, Mass., March 2.—Edward Glines, who has been elected as a Republican to many offices, died at his home here last night. He was mayor of this city for three years, had served in both branches of the legislature and was a delegate to two Republican national conventions. He was 67 years old.

LANSING BLAMES ONLY KAISER IN PROBE OF PLOT

Secretary Lansing Absolves Mexico and Japan in Public Statement

Washington, March 2.—Denial by the envoys of Japan and Mexico, and exoneration by Secretary Lansing of their governments of any part in Germany's plot against the United States were made yesterday. Mr. Lansing authorized the following statement as representing the administration's attitude toward Japan and Mexico:

"We do not believe that Japan has any knowledge of this, or that she would countenance any proposition made by an enemy. "We have confidence that Mexico would not be a party to any such agreement in view of the friendly relations existing between this government and the de facto government of Mexico."

Ambassador Sato of Japan said: "With regard to the alleged German attempts to induce Japan and Mexico to make war upon the United States, made public in the press this morning, the Japanese Embassy, while lacking information as to whether such invitation ever reached Tokyo, desires to state most emphatically that any invitation of this sort would be under no circumstances entertained by the Japanese government, which is in entire accord and close relations with the other powers on account of formal agreements and our good friendship with the United States, which is every day growing in sincerity and cordiality."

"Germany is very much mistaken if she thinks that my country would combine with Mexico and herself to make war against the United States. Germany would stop at nothing in the present state of affairs, and this makes the conception of the plot very probable. In saying 'I speak authoritatively for my government.'"

Ramon de Negri, the Mexican Charge, said: "As Charge of Affairs of the Mexican Embassy I desire to deny the participation of my Government in the plot reported in the morning papers. I expect the official denial of my government will be made in reply to the report which I have forwarded to the Foreign Office."

Ambassador Fletcher has informed the State Department that the Mexican Minister at Mexico City has made a number of informal soundings at the Mexican Foreign Office as to certain how Gen. Carranza might be expected to receive such a proposition, but that the First Chief has never been informed that Germany desired to open formal negotiations leading to such an agreement.

The text of Dr. Zimmermann's communication has been cabled to every American diplomatic representative on this hemisphere, with instructions to ask the Foreign Offices how they feel on the subject. The Administration for several months has been alive to the fact that powerful German influences have been working in virtually all of the Latin-American capitals for the purpose of trying to draw the governments away from the United States. Up to the present time the President and Secretary Lansing have no reason to believe that these schemes have succeeded. As far as the Administration has been able to ascertain, the Latin-American republics have no intention of looking to Germany for support of any sort.

The State Department is satisfied that publication of the Zimmerman document will act as a boomerang as far as Germany is concerned on this continent. Despite the fact that the United States has a number of trying situations existing in Latin-America, the State Department feels that none of the republics of this hemisphere would espouse Germany at this time.

Congregational Church Members Greet Pastor

Hundreds of members of the United Congregational church, former members, and ministers of other churches welcomed Rev. Horace Day last evening at a reception in the parlors of the church. Dr. and Mrs. Day and prominent members of the church received. The parlors were decorated with cut flowers. Mrs. C. N. Worthen was in charge of the details. Luncheon was served and Mrs. Walter Lashar, Mrs. Henry Blodget and Mrs. W. E. Seeley poured.

Thousand Women Will Take Part In Inaugural Parade

Washington, Mar. 1.—The committee in charge of the inauguration announced to-day a number of women's delegations which will supply more than 1,000 marchers for the parade on Monday, despite the withdrawal of a number of women who became angry over the barring of certain floats from the procession. Among those who will march are a delegation of Illinois Democratic women headed by Mrs. George Bass, Chicago; 50 members of the Women's Wilson League of Philadelphia, 100 members of the Women's National Trade League of Baltimore, a delegation from California and Washington state, several hundred employees of the bureau of engraving and printing, 400 girl scouts and more than 100 Washington women.

Italy Informed the United States that the Tyrrhenian coast will be mined.

FUNERAL DESIGNS AND BOUQUETS JOHN RECK & SON.

A. P. ANDREW PRAISED FOR CONDUCTING AMERICAN AMBULANCES IN FRANCE



A. PIATT ANDREW

Fifty American university men, recruits for the American ambulance field service, arrived in Paris, landing from the steamship Espagne from New York City, New York, and other contingents which will arrive soon from the United States there will be 400 ambulances of the field service in commission at the French front.

Professor A. Piatt Andrew the manager of the service, has been cited in the orders of the day of the army for his disregard of danger at the front in directing the ambulance men. Professor Andrew is a Massachusetts man and was director of the United States mint in 1909-10 and assistant secretary of the treasury in 1910-12. He was assistant professor of economics at Harvard university for nine years.

DAIRMEN OPEN CLUB.

New York, March 2.—The Dairymen's league formed by 32,500 farmers in New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New Jersey has opened a club house and headquarters here. It is stated that the members own 403,767 cows which supply a large part of the milk and cream consumed in New York city, and that the purpose of the organization is to establish closer relations with distributors.

CONNECTICUT HAS OVER A QUARTER OF GRAND TOTAL OF POSTAL SAVINGS CREDITED TO NEW ENGLAND STATES

Her Share Is \$2,764,824 Out of \$9,565,118—Showed Heaviest Gain of Any State Last Year—Bridgeport Next to Boston in Deposits.

More than nine and a half millions of dollars in the postal savings banks of the country belong to New England people, and their proportion for the entire country is a little under one dollar in ten. Of the New England total, Connecticut folk own considerably more than one-quarter. Connecticut showed the largest gain of any state in the country last year. Here are the figures for New England, according to the Boston Transcript, for the period ending November 30, 1916.

Table with columns: State, Deposits, Total. Rows: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont.

The gains in deposits in the five months of the fiscal year, July 1 to November 30, 1916, have been large and point to a breaking of all records. Connecticut showed a gain for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, of 74 per cent. in the five months since then of 43 per cent.; Maine went ahead in the same period 12 per cent. and 21 per cent.; Massachusetts, 33 per cent. and 21 per cent. New Hampshire 18 per cent. and 17 per cent. and 24 per cent.; Vermont 14 per cent. and 12 per cent.

Vermont has the largest average balance per depositor, \$165; then follow Connecticut with \$152; Maine with \$149; Massachusetts with \$142; New Hampshire with \$134; Rhode Island with \$123. These figures are interesting in view of the fact that the average balance throughout the United States is \$170.

Bridgeport has the largest deposits in Connecticut with \$636,000. It ranks next below Boston in New England. The total deposits in the postal savings system are approximately \$15,000,000 and the number of depositors is 655,000.

The postal bank bill failed in Roosevelt's administration for lack of time. But Postmaster General Meyer finally got a plank advocating it in the Republican platform and this completed the political circle. The other parties already having endorsed the plan. Thus divested of partisan bias, the idea was free for fruition. When Frank H. Hitchcock became postmaster general in 1909 he took

the cause where Mr. Meyer left off, and June 25, 1910, the postal savings bank act was passed. It became effective January 1, 1911, and three days after six post offices of the second class were designated by Mr. Hitchcock for experiments. The six New England states were chosen and banks were opened in the post offices of Rumford, Me., Montpelier, Vt., Ansonia, Conn., Norwood, Mass., Berlin, N. H., and Bristol, R. I. It was not until summer that the system was extended to the big industrial centers which later were destined to form the backbone of the whole.

"When the European war opened the postal banks had been showing steady gains in deposits for a long time, but in August, 1914, they were quadrupled. They gradually declined until June, 1915, when they became normal again. They remained normal until May, 1916, when congress did away with the restriction confining deposits to not more than \$100 a month and increased the maximum per depositor from its original \$500 to \$1,000. Deposits quadrupled again and even eclipsed the previous high-water mark of the first month of the war. They are now making a net gain of \$1,000,000 a week.

The law provided originally for deposit of the money in national banks or in state banks which were under state supervision. Since the institution of the federal reserve system postmasters may deposit with member banks of that system, and under an amendment to the federal reserve act, adopted May 18, 1916, they may deposit with any local supervised bank if no member bank of the federal reserve system is in town. The banks are required to pay the government 2-1/2 per cent. on postal bank money deposited with them, and the government pays 2 per cent. to depositors. Out of the one-half per cent. margin the government has been able to meet the expenses of the postal bank system and lay by a little surplus. Only 112 persons are employed in the postal savings division of the post office department in Washington.

The theory that the postal savings bank would reach out into the country and attract the isolated farmer has not been vindicated. The farmer prefers the local bank with which he has been familiar. The natural field of the postal bank is in the great industrial centers and mining regions and its natural patrons

are foreigners. Some 65 per cent. of all postal savings depositors were born outside the United States and they own 80 per cent. of all the money on deposit. The Russian Jews outstrip all other foreigners in deposits, with 20.7 per cent. of all postal savings deposits to their credit. The Italians are next, with 14.2 per cent. Natives of Great Britain and her colonies rank third, with 8.8 per cent. They follow Austrians, Hungarians, Germans, Swedes and Greeks in that order.

TUG FREED FROM CHAIN.

The tug Robert McAllister was freed from entanglement in the mooring chain at the Lake Torpedo Boat Co. basin yesterday morning after having been held there more than a day. The combined crews of the McAllister and the submarine L-5 effected its release.

A VEGETARIAN MEAL.

In view of the ever increasing cost of meat and the desirability of adding variety to the diet by the use of more fruits and vegetables, the Connecticut Pomological Society and the Vegetable Growers' Association at their recent convention in Hartford, February 8 to 8, offered prizes for an exhibit of dinners which should omit meat.

Among the other conditions of the contest were the following: The meal should be well selected and consist of six dishes in addition to bread and butter. It should be sufficient in amount to serve four people. It should be planned and prepared by high school pupils with a minimum of assistance from teachers.

The meal which won the second prize, a handsome copper cup donated by Henry Kohn & Co., Jewelers, of Hartford, was planned and prepared by the Second Year Class in the School of Home Economics, Connecticut Agricultural College. The menu was as follows:

- Vegetable Soup
Nut Loaf Stuffed Potatoes
Spinach molded with Hard Boiled Egg
Bread and Butter
Celery and Pepper Salad
French Dressing
Peach Charlotte

As the nut loaf is quite a hearty dish a thin soup and a light salad were served, while to balance a starchy dish like the potatoes, a green succulent vegetable was chosen. The dessert was selected to offer fruit in an attractive form, and while light it has much food value on account of the cream used in the preparation.

The itemized cost of the meal was: Vegetable Soup... \$1.16 1/2, Nut loaf... .31, Potatoes... .15, Spinach... .20 1/2, Salad... .18, Dessert... .18, Bread and Butter... .11. Total... \$1.30. The cost per person was 32 1/2 cents. M. E. HAYES, Home Economics Dept Conn Agri College.

SPECIAL BARGAINS-ADVANCE SPRING GOODS!

AND CHEERFUL CREDIT. You Can't Get Better Styles or More Serviceable Materials at Prices to Compare With These— Take advantage of our Introducing Prices on New Spring Wearing Apparel for men, women and children, before your chance is gone. Remember: You pay Nothing Down and only \$1.00 a Week on your purchase at the Caesar Misch Stores. Our entire remaining stock of Winter Goods will be cleared at One-Half Price—or Less.

PRETTY Spring Dresses. Attractive new spring dresses for women and misses, in taffeta and crepe de chine. New styles and popular colors including, gold, chartreuse, Belgium, navy and black. Values up to \$18.95 to \$25.00.

New Crepe de Chine Waists. White with gold collar and trimming, also flesh color plain models. Value \$2.75 \$4.00.

All Winter Goods for Men, Women and Children— at less than 1/2 Price.

NEW SUITS for Men and Young Men. A dandy assortment of new spring models, some of the classiest suits that have ever landed in old Bridgeport! We want to get them "on the streets" quickly and we're going to cut prices. Values \$15 to \$30. \$9.50 \$14.50 \$18.50 \$23.50. Included are a few fall weights.

NEW SPRING SUITS FOR WOMEN AND MISSES. These are only a very few of the styles—there are hundreds of other here and more arriving daily. All-wool poplins with new belted model coats, side pockets, white collars. Skirts have shirred back. Colors include apple green, chartreuse, black and navy. \$18.75 value. Special \$11.95.

SOMETHING NEW! INTERESTING! A new pleated model with belt and new style collar, shirred skirt with pockets, materials all-wool poire, colors black, navy and gold. Regular \$25 value. \$17.95.

See Our New Millinery Display—and choose YOUR hat before the Spring rush! Our large, attractive stock of the season's latest hats will enable you to choose your here. Sport, tailored or dressy hats, some have the becoming crepe facings and many are tastefully trimmed with feathers, flowers and ornaments. Our prices are just as attractive as our hats.

STYLISH Spring Coats. A gorgeous array of new, stylish spring coats for women and misses who really desire something distinctive. All-wool poire cloth, flare models with belt and large pockets, gold stitching, trimmings, colors are black and navy. \$18.75 value. \$11.95.

New Silk Spring Skirts. In plaid stripes and black taffeta, shirred models with belt and pockets. \$5.98 \$8 value.

Boys' and Girls' Spring Wear. Now Arriving!

Caesar Misch Stores. Men's Shirts New—Dressy. Necktie models, soft and stiff cuts, a varied assortment of new patterns and cloths. Values \$1 to \$2.50. 65c, 95c, \$1.35, \$1.95. Suits for the Boy who is just going into long trousers. A few small sizes, unusual bargains. Values up to \$12. \$6.50. Neckties FOR MEN. New spring neckwear in novelty silks and knits. Values 35c to \$1.50. 29c to 95c. Spring Hats FOR MEN. Fresh and brand new creations—soft and velour hats, variety of shades and styles. SPECIALLY PRICED. Caesar Misch Stores. CASH OR CREDIT. Main, Golden Mill and Middle Streets.